

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (d) According to the Indian Council of Medical Research, there is epidemiological evidence showing increase in prevalence of diabetes, particularly in urban areas of the country.

Diabetes treatment is done at all levels in the rural health care delivery system and urban health care institutions. There are also around 100 Government Medical Colleges in the country, besides premiere institutions like AIIMS, which provides both secondary and tertiary diabetes management facilities. A Pilot Project on "Strengthening of Bio-Chemical Laboratories and Quality Assurance" was initiated in 1999-2000 in the States of Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Punjab. The National Diabetes Control Programme has now been merged with Indian Council of Medical Research which has constituted an Expert Group to formulate a revised comprehensive Plan of Action to control diabetes.

Law for registration of clinical labs

1554. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal before Government to bring in a law for registration of clinical labs in the country to streamline the laboratory facilities;

(b) if so, whether Government have sought the opinion of the States;

(c) if so, the number of States which have responded, so far;

(d) whether his Ministry has conducted any study on the co-efficient variation on the test results of clinical labs; and

(e) if so, the results of the study?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No State has yet responded.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) In view of (d) above, does not arise.